

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 5, 6, and 7. These sheets, which include Figs. 5, 6, and 7, replace the original sheets including Figs. 5, 6, and 7.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the previous amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-42 are pending. Claims 4, 7-13, 17, 20-26, 30, and 33-39 have been withdrawn. By this Amendment, Claims 1, 5, 15, 18, 21, 28, 31, 34, 41 and 42 are amended. Upon allowance of Claims 1, 2, 15, and 28 Applicants respectfully request that the withdrawn claims be reinstated.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. Figures 5, 6, and 7 are amended to obviate this objection. Furthermore, Applicants note that element l₂ is disclosed in the specification at page 16, line 16. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The specification is amended to obviate this objection.

The Office Action rejects Claims 5, 18, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The claims are amended to obviate this rejection.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 14-16, 18, 19, 27-29, 31, 32, and 40-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S.P. 5,657,187 to Hatch et al. and Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 14-16, 18, 19, 27-29, 31, 32, and 40-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0001287 to Honda et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Before considering the rejections it is believed that a brief review of the subject matter of the independent claims would be helpful. In this regard, independent Claim 1 is directed to suspension. A resilient flexure supports a head slider having at least one head element to control the flying attitude of the head slider. A load beam supports the flexure at its top end section and applies a load in a direction perpendicular to a surface of a recording medium to the head slider. At least one fixing means is formed integral with a load beam and fixes the load beam to a support arm. A load generation means couples the at least one fixing means

with the load beam to generate a load. The load generation means has a first at least one leaf spring section integral with the load beam. The first at least one leaf spring section is located at a rear of the at least one fixing means relative to the resilient flexure.

Independent Claim 2 is directed to, *inter alia*, a head gimbal assembly including a head slider having at least one head element.

Independent Claim 15 is directed to, *inter alia*, a head arm assembly including a head slider having at least one head element. A high rigidity support arm is fixed to the at least one fixing means at its top end section for supporting the load beam. The drive means rotationally moves the support arm in a direction parallel to the surface of the recording medium.

Claim 41 is directed to, *inter alia*, a disk drive device including at least one recording medium.

Independent Claim 28 is directed to, *inter alia*, a head arm assembly including a load generation means having first at least one spring section located at a rear of the at least one fixing means relative to the resilient flexure and at the front of a horizontal bearing axis of the support arm which is driven to rotationally move around the horizontal bearing axis.

Independent Claim 42 is directed to, *inter alia*, a disk drive device.

With respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Applicants submit an accurate translation of application JP 2002-299217 filed October 11, 2002. The instant application claims priority from JP 2002-299217. The October 11, 2002 filing date is prior to the June 27, 2003 filing date of Honda. Thus, Honda is not prior art.

With respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Hatch does not disclose at least the one leaf spring section located at a rear of at least one fixing means relative to the resilient flexure, as in amended independent Claims 1, 2, 15, 28, 41, and 42. Instead, Hatch

discloses resilient spring section 26 in front of the fixing means (adjacent element 18) relative to gimbal 14.

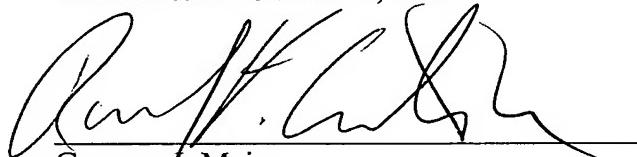
The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above as well as for the individual features they recite.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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